

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



April 19, 2005

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

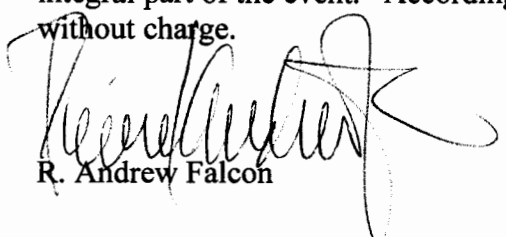
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the UMBC 2006 Meyerhoff Scholar Graduates Dinner, May 3, 2006

On May 3, 2006, the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) will host a reception and dinner in honor of the 2006 Scholar Graduates at the Gramercy Mansion, in Stevenson, Maryland. UMBC Meyerhoff Scholar Program awards full scholarships to high-achieving high school seniors who have an interest in pursuing doctoral study in the sciences or engineering, and who are interested in the advancement of minorities in the sciences and related fields. The reception and dinner is for the doctoral study graduates of the program. It has been determined to be in the best interest of the Government for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend in their official capacities and as representatives of NASA.

The dinner will be attended by officials from other Federal agencies, members of academia, and various other local organizations. The estimated cost of the event, which includes all food and beverages, is \$70 per person. I find that the reception and dinner meet the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g). I determine that attendance by NASA employees is in the interest of NASA because it will further Agency programs and operations.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the University should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 CFR 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

NASA employees, who are permitted to attend under the criteria above, may accept free attendance, including food, refreshments and entertainment furnished to all attendees as an integral part of the event. Accordingly, NASA invitees may attend the reception and dinner without charge.


R. Andrew Falcon